

PATENT
450100-03354REMARKS

The Office Action in the above-identified application has been carefully considered and this amendment has been presented to place this application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reexamination and reconsideration of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 are in the present application. It is submitted that these claims were patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. The changes to the claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. sections 101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicant is entitled.

Claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Shimazaki et al. (U.S. Patent 6,160,950). In the present invention, "said predetermined characteristic is selected from audio characteristics and video characteristics of the first information signal on the basis of a genre of said first information signal." (Claims 1, 4, 10, and 16) This feature is disclosed by the first two columns of the table shown in Figure 8. For example, if the genre of the first information signal is a "sports program," the predetermined characteristic (preferred detection parameter) may be the audio characteristic of a "predetermined high audio level section" or the video characteristic of a "predetermined color section." (Figure 8) In this manner, a particular genre may use audio characteristics, video characteristics, or both audio and video characteristics as detection parameters. While Shimazaki does separately disclose the use of an audio characteristic or a video characteristic for a particular video signal, Shimazaki does

PATENT
450100-03354

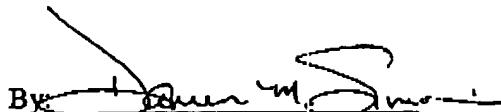
not disclose combinations "selected from audio characteristics and video characteristics" or basing the characteristic(s) on the genre of the video signal as recited in the present claims. Accordingly, for at least these reasons, Shimazaki fails to anticipate the present invention and the rejected claims should now be allowed.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application as now presented is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

No additional fees are deemed to be required for the filing of this amendment, but if such are, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, he/she is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number provided below. The Examiner's consideration of this matter is gratefully acknowledged.

Respectfully submitted,
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